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National Aeronautics and Space Administration
Goddard Space Flight Center
Contract No. NAS-5-12487

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ON THE PATH TO ORBITAL STATIONS

(Tass)

FACILITY FORM 602

<u>N 60-10883</u> (ACCESSION NUMBER)	_____ (THRU)
<u>3</u> (PAGES)	_____ (CODE)
<u>OK-97739</u> (NASA CR OR TMX OR AD NUMBER)	<u>31</u> (CATEGORY)



20 NOVEMBER 1968

ON THE PATH TO ORBITAL STATIONS

(SUMMARY)

Newspaper "PRAVDA"
17 November 1968

Tass Agency Column

This article deals in general with progress made by Soviet Union on the path to orbital stations (platforms). It is a sort of review discussing the previous launchings "SOYUZ-2", "VOSKHOD", and a series of "KOSMOS", with special emphasis on the latest of the Soyuz series "SOYUZ-2" & "SOYUZ-3".

On 27 October at 0516 hours Moscow Time "SOYUZ-3" was at its 13th orbit being within radiovisibility from USSR Far-Eastern points of observation. It was its second day in Earth's orbit, period during which all the projected volume of scientific research has been completed. Broad maneuvering was performed with the view of rapprochement with "SOYUZ-2", launched on the day prior to that of "SOYUZ-3", respectively 25 and 26 October 1968.

By 1850 hours on 27 October, SOYUZ-3 completed 22 orbits and SOYUZ-2 was in its 39th. Repeated "rapprochement" of both space crafts (SOYUZ-2 being piloteless) was conducted by manual and automatic means. After that, both crafts went into orbits with the following parameters:

SOYUZ-2: revolution period 88.4 min; apogee 231 km; perigee 181 km; orbit inclination 51.7°.

SOYUZ-3: revolution period 88.6 min. apogee 252 km; perigee 179 km; orbit inclination 51.7°.

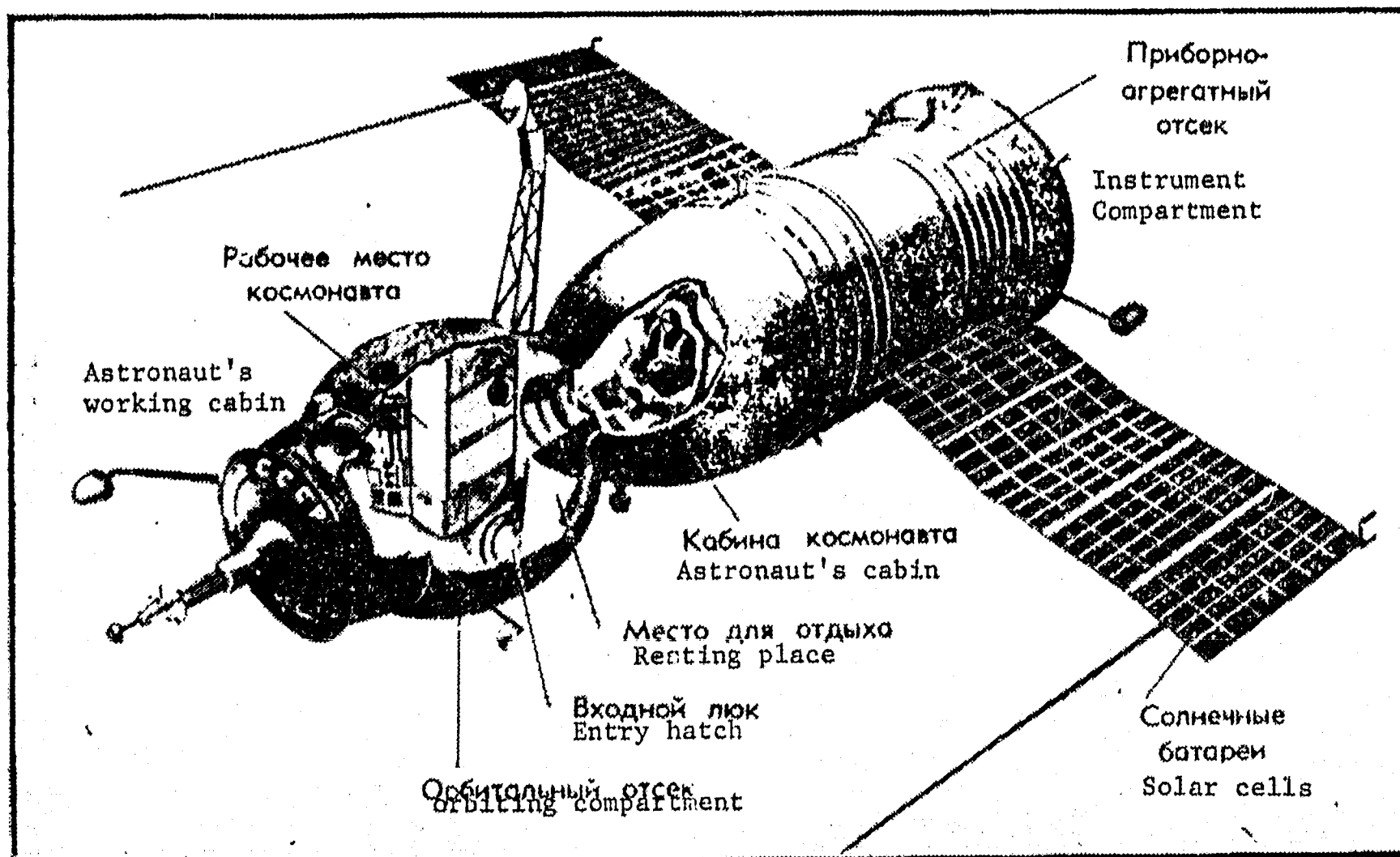
During the day television transmission and scientific research were performed. State of health of astronaut Beregovoy: pulse 63 beats/min; breathing 16/min. Pressure inside the cabin of SOYUZ-3 was 785 mm Hg and temperature 23°C.

On 28 October "SOYUZ-2" soft landed in a preassigned spot of Soviet Union on 28 October at 1051 h., after completing its program, while SOYUZ-3 pursued its flight, completing by noontime of that day its 33rd orbit. Shortly afterward television pictures were transmitted to millions of observers on the ground. Operations and state of health of Beregovoy were normal.

At 1923 hours Moscow Time on that same day SOYUZ-3 completed its 38th orbit. According to the prescribed program, onboard engine was switched on in the 36th orbit, then the craft was oriented at the Sun with the aid of solar batteries and was stabilized in that position. After completion of these maneuvers, the parameters of SOYUZ-3 were as follows:

.../...

Revolution period 88.8 min; apogee 244 km; perigee 199 km, orb.incl.51.7°. Astronaut's Beregovoy dinner menu on the third day consisted of vobla, chicken filet, cookies, cocoa with milk and prunes. During the entire flight the pulse varied from 63 to 68 beats/min and breathing frequency from 12 to 15 /min. At 1830 hours the astronaut went to his "rest" compartment where he remained until 0430 hours on 29 October, the craft being outside of the visibility zone.



Космический корабль «Союз-3».

Фотохроника ТАСС.

SPACESHIP "SOYUZ-3"

(Photo Tass)

On 30 October at 1025 hours Moscow Time SOYUZ-3 landed at a preassigned spot near Karagadan, having completed a 4-day orbital flight around the Earth.

After the usual digression concerning the performance of the various instruments and maneuvers (everything evidently "according to plan"), the communique ends with the statement that "studies of the results of flight of spaceship "SOYUZ-3" are now being processed and studied.